EXHIBIT B

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December 6, 2001

Mr. John Robertus
Executive Director
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA. 92123-4340

Dear Mr. Robertus:

Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act Program for Recovery of Oversight Costs, Belt Street Pipeline Rupture, San Diego, California

On behalf of the City of San Diego, I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 29, 2001 (certified mail # 7099 3400 0017 1547 6203), concerning cost reimbursement in fiscal year 2001-2002 for Regional Board staff costs involved with the oversight of the investigation and cleanup efforts at the Belt Street Pipeline Rupture located on Belt Street in San Diego, California.

This acknowledgment, of course, is without prejudice as to whether such costs are warranted against the City of San Diego.

Sincerely yours,

CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

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Ted Bromfield Senior Deputy City Attorney

TB:mb